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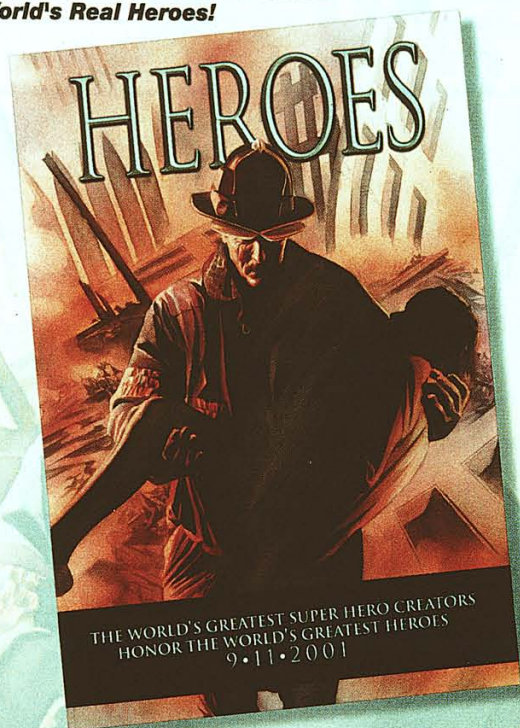


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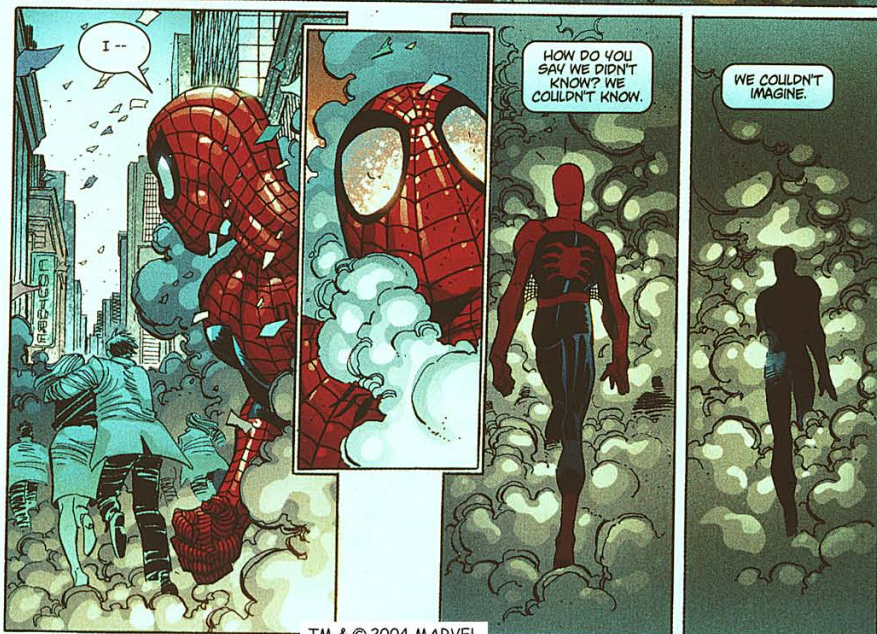
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OF SIRENS...

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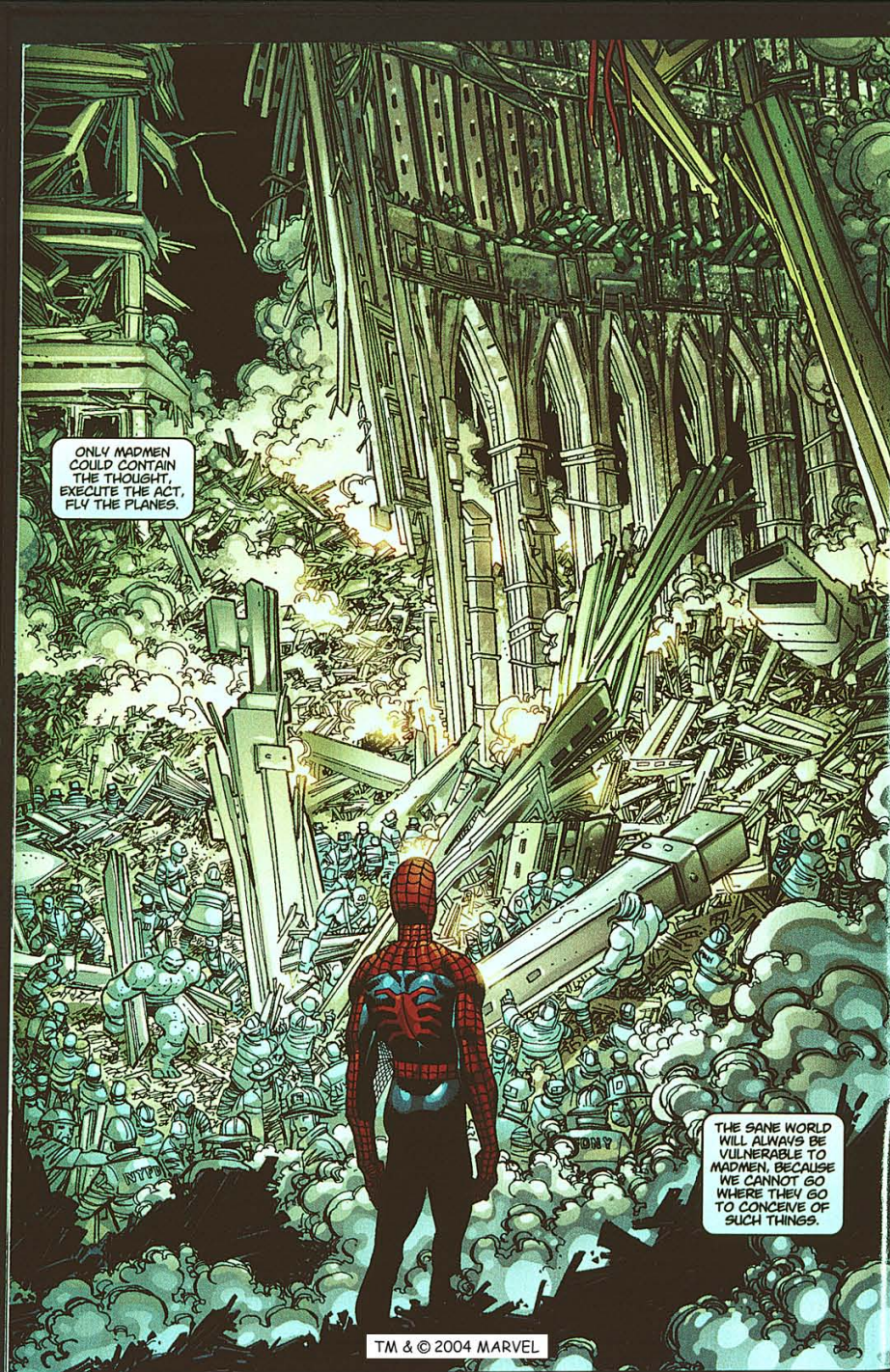
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COULD CONTAIN
THE THOUGHT.
EXECUTE THE ACT.
FLY THE PLANES.

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WILL ALWAYS BE
VULNERABLE TO
MADMEN, BECAUSE
WE CANNOT GO
WHERE THEY GO
TO CONCEIVE OF
SUCH THINGS.



WE COULD NOT
SEE IT COMING.
WE COULD NOT
BE HERE BEFORE
IT HAPPENED.
WE COULD NOT
STOP IT.



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A two-page comic book spread showing Spider-Man rescuing people from a collapsed building. On the left page, Spider-Man is seen from behind, using his web to pull a man up. Several firefighters in blue gear are also present, with one labeled 'FEMA' and another 'POLICE'. A speech bubble from Spider-Man says, 'YOU CANNOT SEE US FOR THE DUST, BUT WE ARE HERE.' On the right page, Spider-Man is shown from the front, using his web to pull a man up. A speech bubble from Spider-Man says, 'YOU CANNOT HEAR US FOR THE CRIS, BUT WE ARE HERE.' The background is filled with debris and smoke.

YOU CANNOT SEE
US FOR THE DUST,
BUT WE ARE HERE.

YOU CANNOT HEAR
US FOR THE CRIS,
BUT WE ARE HERE.



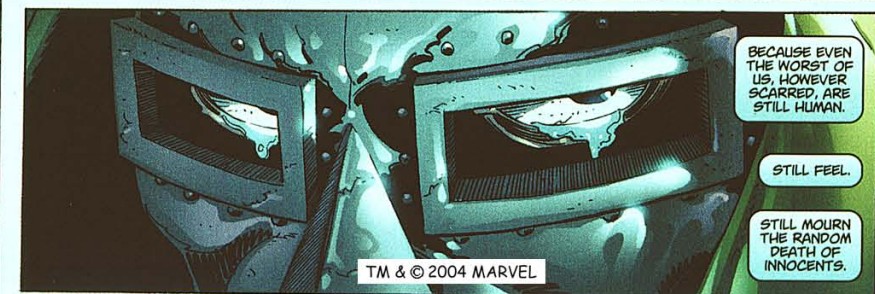
EVEN THOSE WE
THOUGHT OUR
ENEMIES ARE HERE.
BECAUSE SOME
THINGS SURPASS
RIVALRIES AND
BORDERS.



BECAUSE THE STORY OF
HUMANITY IS WRITTEN NOT
IN TOWERS BUT IN TEARS.

IN THE COMMON COIN
OF BLOOD AND BONE.

IN THE VOICE THAT
SPEAKS WITHIN EVEN
THE WORST OF US,
AND SAYS THIS
IS NOT RIGHT.



BECAUSE EVEN
THE WORST OF
US, HOWEVER
SCARRED, ARE
STILL HUMAN.

STILL FEEL.

STILL MOURN
THE RANDOM
DEATH OF
INNOCENTS.

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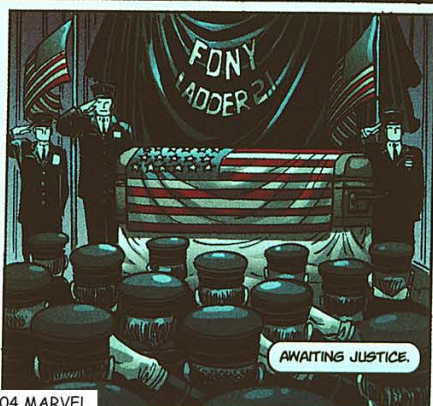
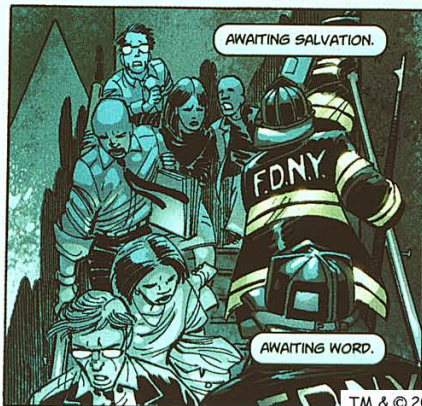
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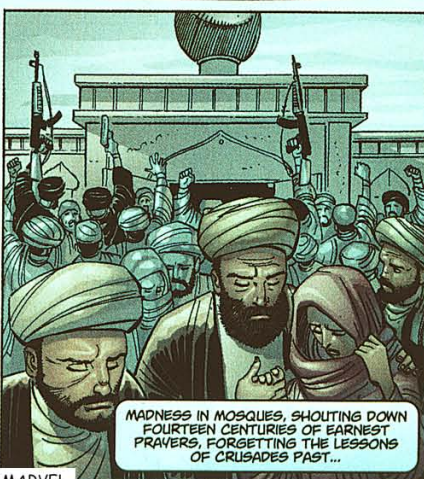
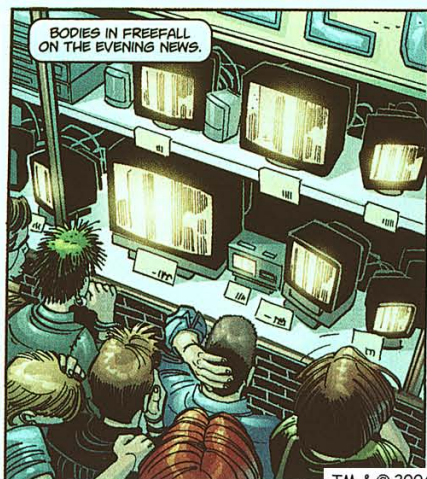
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OF THE

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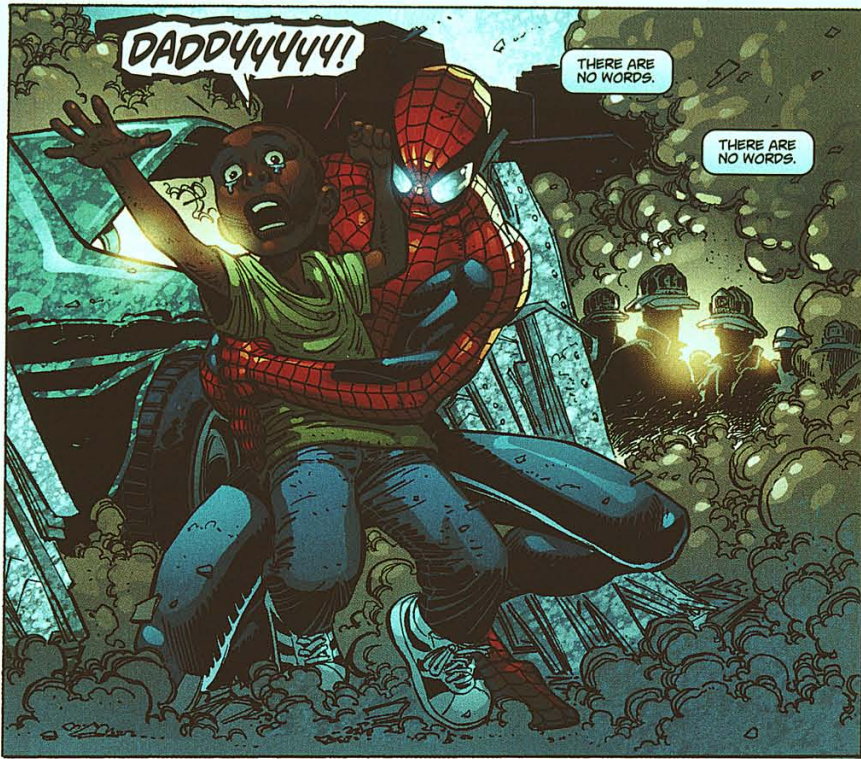


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YOU SHOULDN'T --



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HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD KNOW, BECAUSE HE'S BEEN HERE BEFORE.



I WISH I HAD NOT LIVED TO SEE THIS ONCE.



I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT IT IS TO SEE THIS TWICE.



I JUST CAN'T IMAGINE.

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WHAT DO WE TELL THE CHILDREN?

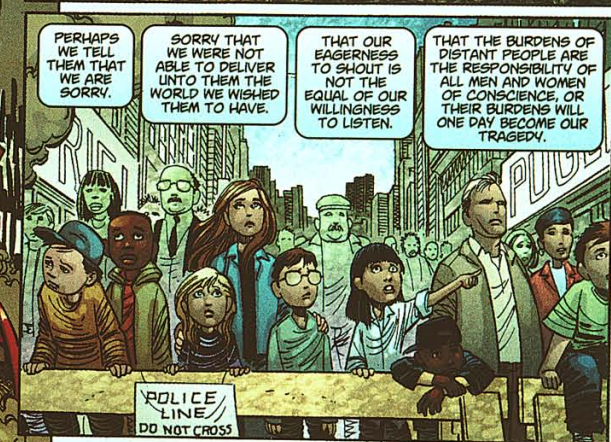
DO WE TELL THEM EVIL IS A FOREIGN FACE?

NO. THE EVIL IS THE THOUGHT BEHIND THE FACE, AND IT CAN LOOK JUST LIKE YOURS.



DO WE TELL THEM EVIL IS TANGIBLE, WITH DEFINED BORDERS AND NAMES AND GEOMETRIES AND DESTINIES?

NO. THEY WILL HAVE NIGHTMARES ENOUGH.



PERHAPS WE TELL THEM THAT WE ARE SORRY.

SORRY THAT WE WERE NOT ABLE TO DELIVER UNTO THEM THE WORLD WE WISHED THEM TO HAVE.

THAT OUR EAGERNESS TO SHOUT IS NOT THE EQUAL OF OUR WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN.

THAT THE BURDENS OF DISTANT PEOPLE ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL MEN AND WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE, OR THEIR BURDENS WILL ONE DAY BECOME OUR TRAGEDY.



OR PERHAPS WE SIMPLY TELL THEM THAT WE LOVE THEM, AND THAT WE WILL PROTECT THEM. THAT WE WOULD GIVE OUR LIVES FOR THEIRS AND DO IT GLADLY, SO GREAT IS THE BURDEN OF OUR LOVE.



IN A UNIVERSE OF GAMEBOYS AND VCRs, IT IS, PERHAPS, AN INSUBSTANTIAL GIFT. BUT IT IS THE ONLY ONE THAT WILL WASH AWAY THE TEARS AND KNIT THE WOUNDS AND MAKE THE WORLD A SAANE PLACE TO LIVE IN.

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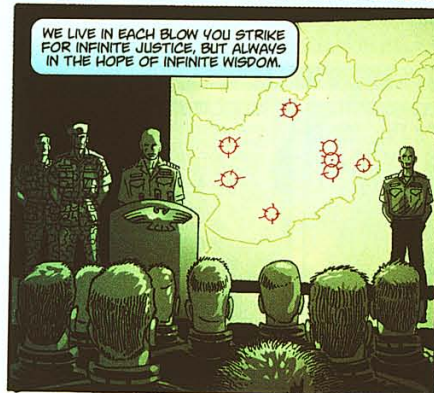


WE COULD NOT SEE IT COMING. NO ONE COULD. WE COULD NOT STOP IT. NO ONE COULD.

BUT WE ARE HERE. NOW. WITH YOU.



TODAY. TOMORROW. AND THE DAY AFTER.



WE LIVE IN EACH BLOW YOU STRIKE FOR INFINITE JUSTICE, BUT ALWAYS IN THE HOPE OF INFINITE WISDOM.



BECAUSE WE LIVE AS WELL IN THE QUIET TURNING OF YOUR CONSIDERED CONSCIENCE.

THE VOICE THAT SAYS ALL WARS HAVE INNOCENTS.

THE VOICE THAT SAYS YOU ARE A KIND AND A MERCIFUL PEOPLE.

THE VOICE THAT SAYS DO NOT DO AS THEY DO, OR THE WAR IS LOST BEFORE IT IS EVEN BEGUN.

DO NOT LET THAT KNOWLEDGE BE WASHED AWAY IN BLOOD.



WHEN YOU MOVE, WE WILL MOVE WITH YOU. WHERE YOU GO, WE WILL GO WITH YOU. WHERE YOU ARE, WE ARE IN YOU.

BECAUSE THE FUTURE BELONGS TO ORDINARY MEN AND ORDINARY WOMEN, AND THAT FUTURE MUST BE BUILT FREE OF SUCH ACTS AS THESE, MUST BE FOUGHT FOR AND RENEWED LIKE FRESH WATER.

BECAUSE A MESSAGE MUST BE SENT TO THOSE WHO MUST TAKE COMPASSION FOR WEAKNESS, A MESSAGE SENT ACROSS SIX THOUSAND YEARS OF RECORDED BLOOD AND STRUGGLE.

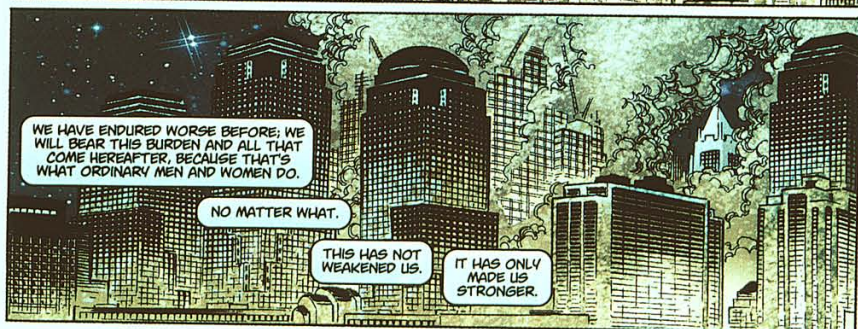
AND THE MESSAGE IS THIS:



WHATEVER OUR HISTORY, WHATEVER THE ROOT OF OUR SURNAMES, WE REMAIN A GOOD AND DECENT PEOPLE, AND WE DO NOT BOW DOWN AND WE DO NOT GIVE UP.

THE FIRE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT CANNOT BE QUENCHED BY BOMB BLASTS OR BODY COUNTS.

CANNOT BE INTIMIDATED FOREVER INTO SILENCE OR DROWNED BY TEARS.



WE HAVE ENDURED WORSE BEFORE; WE WILL BEAR THIS BURDEN AND ALL THAT COME HEREFTER, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT ORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN DO.

NO MATTER WHAT.

THIS HAS NOT WEAKENED US.

IT HAS ONLY MADE US STRONGER.

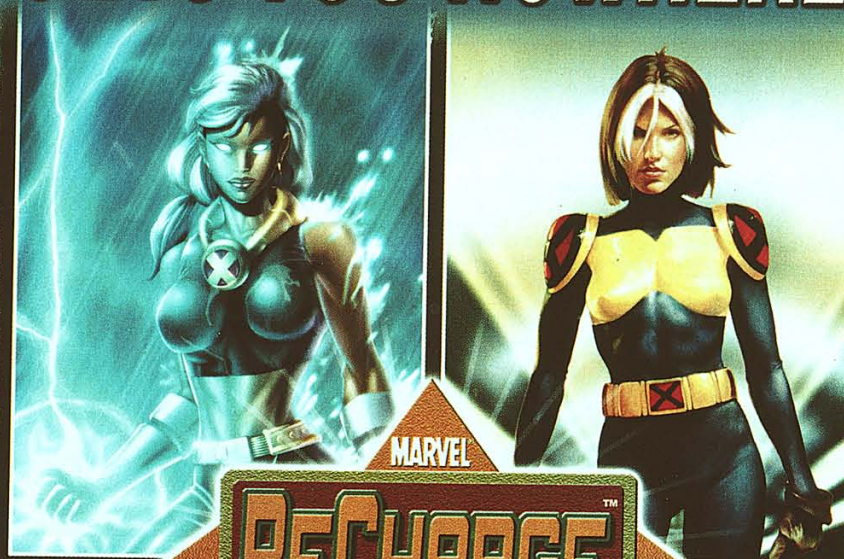
PLAYING NICE...



INAUGURAL EDITION

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GETS YOU NOWHERE



NOVEMBER 2001

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IN RECENT YEARS
WE AS A PEOPLE HAVE
BEEN TRIBALIZED AND
FACIALIZED BY
A THOUSAND CASUAL
UNKINDNESSES.

BUT IN THIS
WE ARE ONE.

WE WILL NEVER FORGET
FLAG SPROUT IN
UNCOMMON PLACES,
THE GROUND MADE
FERTILE BY TEARS
AND SHARED RESOLVE.

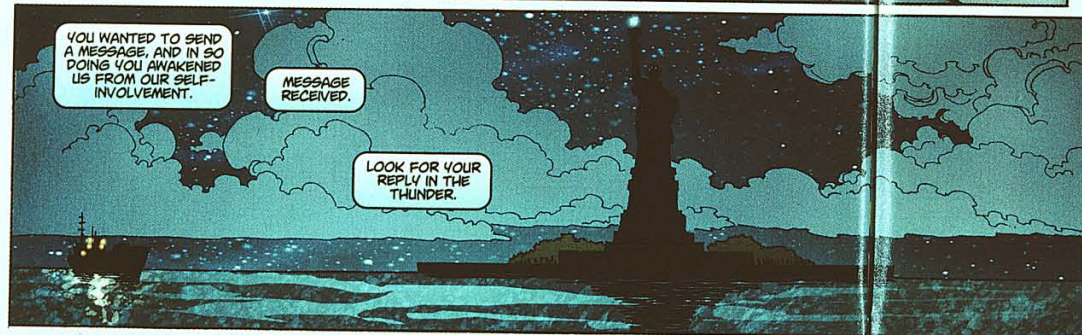
WE HAVE BECOME
ONE IN OUR GRIEF.



WE ARE NOW ONE IN
OUR DETERMINATION.

ONE AS WE
RECOVER.

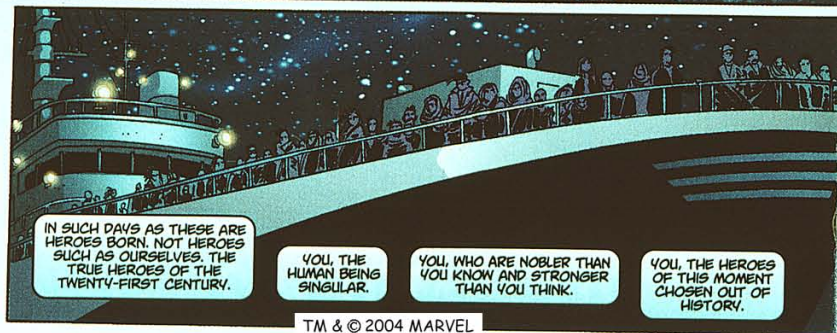
ONE AS WE
REBUILD.



YOU WANTED TO SEND
A MESSAGE, AND IN SO
DOING YOU AWAKENED
US FROM OUR SELF-
INVOLVEMENT.

MESSAGE
RECEIVED.

LOOK FOR YOUR
REPLY IN THE
THUNDER.



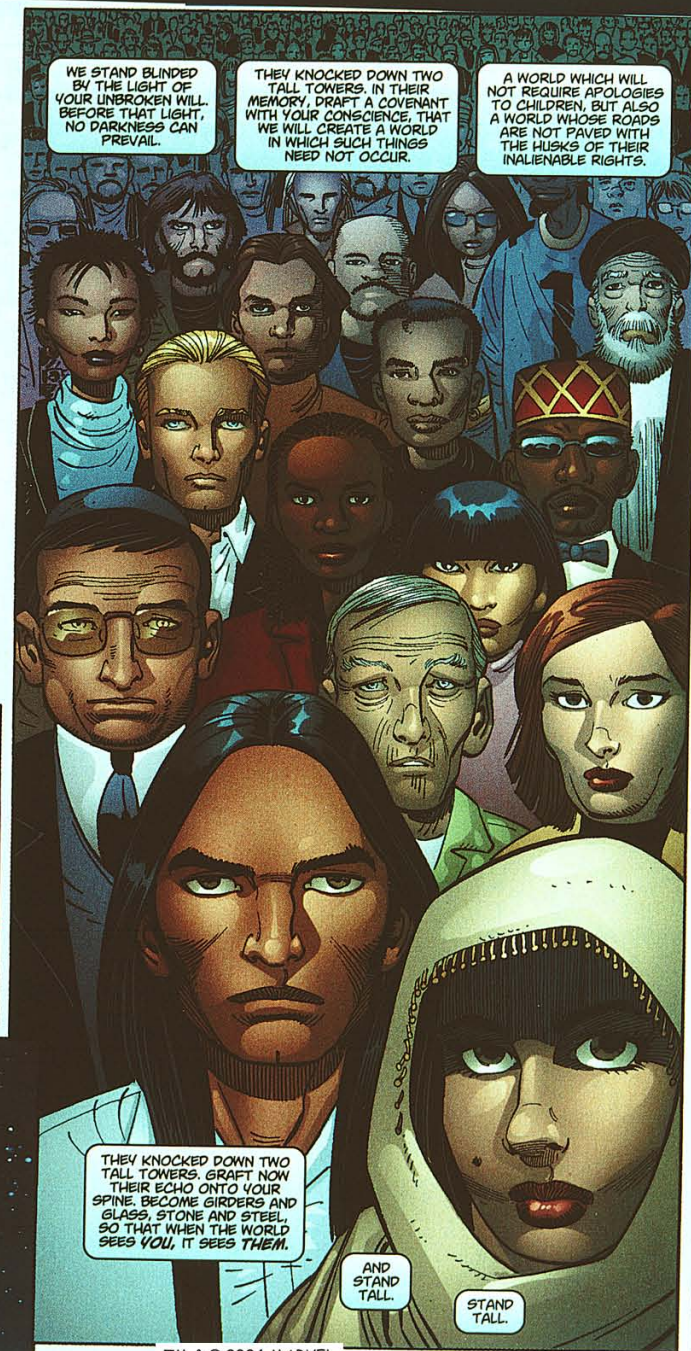
IN SUCH DAYS AS THESE ARE
HEROES BORN, NOT HEROES
SUCH AS OURSELVES, THE
TRUE HEROES OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.

YOU, THE
HUMAN BEING
SINGULAR.

YOU, WHO ARE NOBLER THAN
YOU KNOW AND STRONGER
THAN YOU THINK.

YOU, THE HEROES
OF THIS MOMENT
CHOSEN OUT OF
HISTORY.

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WE STAND BLINDED
BY THE LIGHT OF
YOUR UNBROKEN WILL.
BEFORE THAT LIGHT,
NO DARKNESS CAN
PREVAIL.

THEY KNOCKED DOWN TWO
TALL TOWERS. IN THEIR
MEMORY, DRAFT A COVENANT
WITH YOUR CONSCIENCE, THAT
WE WILL CREATE A WORLD
IN WHICH SUCH THINGS
NEED NOT OCCUR.

A WORLD WHICH WILL
NOT REQUIRE APOLOGIES
TO CHILDREN, BUT ALSO
A WORLD WHOSE ROADS
ARE NOT PAVED WITH
THE HUSKS OF THEIR
INALIENABLE RIGHTS.

THEY KNOCKED DOWN TWO
TALL TOWERS. GRAFT NOW
THEIR ECHO ONTO YOUR
SPINE. BECOME GIRDERS AND
GLASS, STONE AND STEEL
SO THAT WHEN THE WORLD
SEES YOU, IT SEES THEM.

AND
STAND
TALL.

STAND
TALL.

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STAND
TALL.

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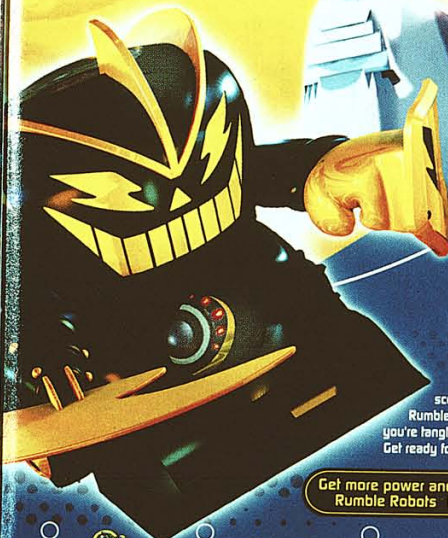
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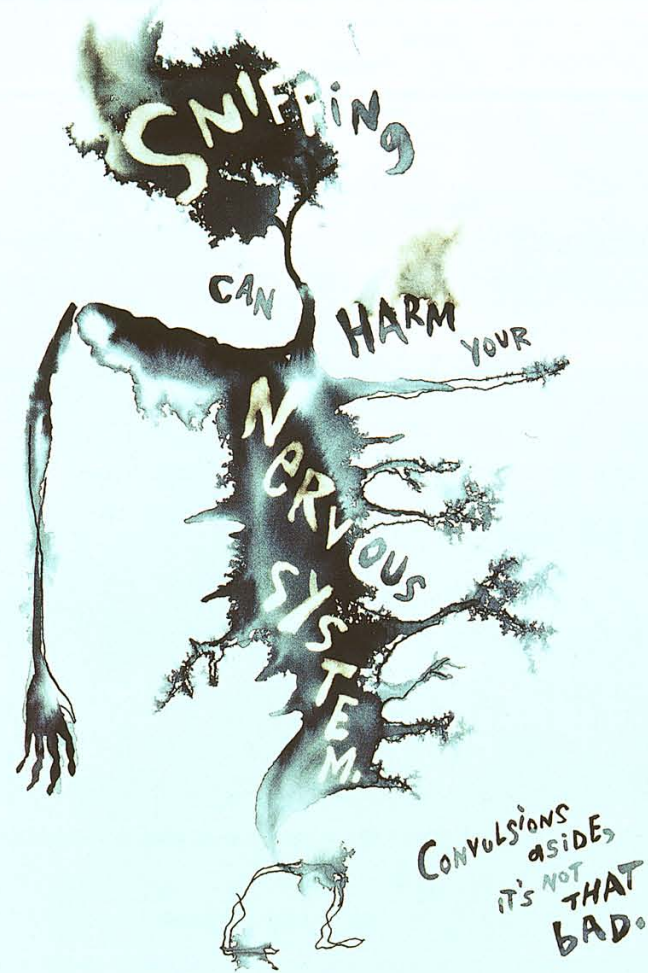
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